

VOLUME 1---NUMBER 6

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Navy be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause to be constructed for the United States navy, at as early a day as practicable, consistently with a due regard for economy and efficiency, six first-class steam frigates, to be provided with screw-propellers, and properly armed and equipped for service; said vessels and machinery to be built by contract, or in the government navy-yards, as the Secretary of the Navy may think most advisable for the public interest.